

Johnson, Patrick

From: sraleman@grandecom.net
Sent: Tuesday, February 19, 2013 3:23 PM
To: District Applications
Subject: Application for the ICRC
Attachments: 130215.ICRC application_ALEMAN STEVEN.pdf

TO: Office of the City Auditor, City of Austin

Please find attached my application for the Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission in the form of a PDF file.

Steven Aleman
512.457.1376
sraleman@grandecom.net

10516

**APPLICATION FOR THE
INDEPENDENT CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION**

2013

Please complete this section legibly.

Name of Applicant: ALEMAN STEVEN R
(Last) (First) (Middle) (Suffix)

Voter Registration Number (VUID): 1133378646

Residence Address (must be a fixed location in the City of Austin):

1813 Cedar Avenue Austin TX 78702
(Street Address) (City) (State) (Zip)

Mailing Address (if different from Residence Address)

(Street Address or PO Box) (City) (State) (Zip)

Contact Phone: 512-457-1376

Contact Email Address: sraleman@grandecom.net

Spouse's Name: BARBER MARIAN J.
(Last) (First) (Middle) (Suffix)

13-02-19P03:54 RCVD

**APPLICATION FOR THE
INDEPENDENT CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION**

2013

Please check YES or NO by each requirement. If you answer YES to question one (1), you may skip questions four (4) and five (5).

1. Are you a student enrolled in a community college or university in the City of Austin? ☐ Yes ☒ No
2. Do you reside in the City of Austin? ☒ Yes ☐ No
3. Are you registered to vote in the City of Austin? ☒ Yes ☐ No
4. Have you been continuously registered to vote in the City of Austin for the five years immediately preceding the date on which you submit this application? ☒ Yes ☐ No
5. Please indicate whether you voted in the following City of Austin general elections (or corresponding runoff if applicable):

| City of Austin General Elections | Candidate Response |
|----------------------------------|---|
| May 12, 2012 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| May 14, 2011 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| May 9, 2009 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| May 10, 2008 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| May 13, 2006 | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |

Conflicts of Interest

The information below is required to help the City Auditor identify any conflict of interest you may have.

| | |
|---|---|
| Within 5 years of the application date, have you or your spouse: | |
| Been appointed to a state or city office? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |
| Been elected to a state or city office? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |
| Been a candidate for a state or city office? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |
| Served as an officer, employee, or paid consultant of a political party? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |
| Served as an officer, employee, or paid consultant of the campaign committee of a candidate for elective state, county, or city office? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |
| Been a registered state or local lobbyist? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |
| Within 3 years of the application date, have you or your spouse been: | |
| A paid employee of the City of Austin? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |
| A person performing paid services under a professional or political contract to the City of Austin or the City Council of the City of Austin? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |
| A controlling person of a person performing paid services under a professional or political contract to the City of Austin or the City Council of the City of Austin? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |
| A person performing paid services under a professional or political contract to any member of the City Council of the City of Austin? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |
| A controlling person of a person performing paid services under a professional or political contract to any member of the City Council of the City of Austin? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |
| In the last City Election did you or your spouse: | |
| Contribute or bundle one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more in aggregate to candidates for City of Austin elective office? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |

Personal Background Information

- Ethnicity: Hispanic
- Race: white
- Gender: ☒ Male ☐ Female
- Age: (Please check your response)
 - ☐ 18 to 24 ☐ 25 to 34 ☐ 35 to 44 ☒ 45 to 54 ☐ 55 to 64 ☐ 65+
- Education level: (Please check any that apply)
 - ☒ High School Diploma or GED
 - ☐ Some College (major _____)
 - ☐ Associate's Degree (major _____)
 - ☒ Bachelor's Degree (major political science)
 - ☒ Post-Graduate Degree, indicate highest degree attained: (subject law degree (J.D.))

Qualifications

Please describe your relevant analytical skills.

I believe that I possess the relevant analytical skills to be highly qualified to serve on the Commission. They include the ability to digest and apply the legal requirements of redistricting. As an attorney, I am familiar with legal requirements in the field of apportionment of legislative representation and am able to navigate the constitutional, statutory, and case law provisions pertaining to redistricting, such as the Voting Rights Act. The Commission will have its own legal counsel and I believe my serving on the Commission would enhance its ability to consult with its lawyer, take guidance under advisement, and draw districts that meet legal standards.

Further, my skills include the ability to examine and understand demographic data. My education, training, and work experience include utilizing census data. For example, in the past I have incorporated both decennial census and American Community Survey data into presentations. I would have no difficulty reading population tabulations for the City of Austin.

In addition, I have experience using various maps of Austin, such as City of Austin maps of neighborhood planning areas and Travis County precinct maps. These different maps will help inform the designation of district boundaries.

Please describe your ability to be impartial.

I believe that I have the impartiality to be highly qualified to serve on the Commission. My professional work includes service as a mediator in legal cases. A key trait of mediation work is not taking sides in the dispute. My service is as a "neutral" -- an unbiased go-between the parties can have confidence is not favoring one litigant over another in the negotiated settlement process. If selected, I will call upon this experience in my service on the Commission, particularly being open-minded when receiving the input of citizens. I pledge to be independent when considering how best to divide the city into ten districts.

Most recently I served for two years as president of the Austin Neighborhoods Council (ANC) and conducted monthly meetings for a large and diverse membership. I am proud that I am known for running fair meetings that allowed all viewpoints to be shared and that I enforced civility in our discussions on those occasions when passions ran high. I believe this experience is relevant and prepares me to assist the Commission in conducting public hearings on redistricting that are open to all perspectives, yet respectful.

I do not have any preconceived notions of where the new Council district lines should fall.

Please describe your appreciation for the City of Austin's diverse demographics and geography.

I believe that my appreciation of local diversity highly qualifies me to serve on the Commission. During my two years as president of the Austin Neighborhoods Council, I attended neighborhood meetings in all parts of town. It was a unique way to experience Austin's geography. I believe this awareness of neighborhoods in all parts of our community well equips me to adhere to one of the mandates of the redistricting process: to respect neighborhood integrity when drawing districts.

I first came to Austin in 1986 as a graduate student at UT's LBJ School of Public Affairs. For over a quarter century I have witnessed the growth of Austin and the challenges that come with that growth. In part my response has been community service, such as volunteering for clean-up projects, serving on a board that awards scholarships to needy youth, and helping elders in my own neighborhood.

As a neighbor and as ANC president, I have attended community events such as the MLK, Jr. Festival, the Our Lady of Guadalupe Jamaica, the Juneteenth parade, the East Austin Studio Tour, a fundraiser event for Waterloo Counseling Center, and the Institute of Interfaith Dialog's annual dinner in Austin. These experiences have enhanced my appreciation for the variety of individuals and communities who all call Austin home.

Please provide any other information you wish to be considered during the selection of the most qualified applicants for the Commission.

I have been a continuous Austin resident since October, 1999. I have lived in the Chestnut neighborhood in East Austin since February, 2000.

My educational degrees include a bachelor's degree in political science (University of Kansas), a master's degree in public policy (University of Texas at Austin, LBJ School of Public Affairs), and a law degree (George Washington University).

My civic involvement includes long-time participation in the Austin Neighborhoods Council as a neighborhood association delegate, sector representative, and officer.

I have performed other civic duties such as serving an election judge for an AISD election.

DISCLAIMER

By submitting this application, I understand that I am giving the City Auditor permission to release my information to the public. In particular, I affirmatively consent to the release of the contact email address I have provided.

If I am appointed, my address, contact phone number and contact email address will be included on the City of Austin's website.

I understand my application is public information under the Texas Public Information Act. The information will be kept according to the City Auditor's records retention policies.

I understand that my participation on the Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission is voluntary.

I understand the duties and terms of service for the Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission as described above.

Under penalty of law, I swear or affirm that the preceding information in this application is in all things true and correct.



Signature of Applicant

2/15/2013

Date

If submitting electronically, please type your full name in the signature box.

